

# DRAFT MEDIA RELEASE

## headspace on track for 2022 opening

21 December 2021

Echuca's new headspace centre is on track to open in the first half of 2022.

With a focus on early intervention, headspace helps young people aged 12-25 and their families to get back on track and strengthens their ability to manage their wellbeing in future.

Builders are working to finalise renovations, including an extension to the centre's site, which will be located at 451 High Street.

Recognising the impacts of lockdowns and ongoing borders closures, Federal Member for Nicholls, Damian Drum, said he was extremely pleased that the centre is closer to launch.

"Everyone has struggled during the pandemic, but it's great that young people living in Echuca and southern NSW areas will soon get the support they need much closer to home," Mr Drum said.

Overseeing the establishment is lead agency Echuca Regional Health, Murray PHN and headspace National. Together with a strong consortium of local providers and a passionate group of young people, everyone is working to ensure that the centre will be responsive to local needs.

Murray PHN Matt Jones said that building partnerships leads to better health.

"Working together contributes to our shared knowledge and understanding of health needs and services available, as well as revealing opportunities to be addressed," Matt said.

In July, Echuca Regional Health put a call out for young people to get involved in the centre's development. Significant consultation has since occurred to ensure the site meets young people's needs.

The headspace centre in Echuca will offer support for mental health, physical and sexual health, vocational (work, school and study), and alcohol and other drugs.

Echuca Regional Health has appointed the centre manager and community engagement worker and is now actively recruiting for the clinical lead and mental health clinician roles.

Health professionals interested in applying for the roles can visit [erh.mercury.com.au](http://erh.mercury.com.au) to learn more.

Meaghan Sully has been appointed as headspace Manager. Meaghan says that she looks forward to overseeing the future growth and development of the centre.

"I'm highly motivated to continuing building collaborative relationships and making sure our local centre improves outcomes for young people, their families and carers in the community," Meaghan said.

Echuca is a new addition to the existing network of six headspace centres across the Murray PHN catchment. In the meantime, young people needing support with their mental health can contact surrounding headspace centres in Bendigo, Shepparton or Swan Hill via [headspace.org.au](http://headspace.org.au)

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